

CLAIMS

1. A method for augmenting an audio signal comprising:
 - receiving an audio signal
 - 5 • extracting features from said audio signal,
 - generating a time ordered table of dramatic parameters according to the extracted features,
 - obtaining media fragments at least in part in dependence on the table of dramatic parameters, and
 - 10 • outputting said media fragments.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said features extracted from said audio signal include one or more of tempo, key, volume.
- 15 3. A method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the generation of said table of dramatic parameters comprises retrieving a list of dramatic parameters and associated audio features, comparing and matching the extracted features with the retrieved associated audio features, and inserting an entry comprising the dramatic parameter associated with the audio feature.
- 20 4. A method according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein said dramatic parameters include mood, changes of pace, incidents.
5. A method according to any preceding claim, wherein said
25 obtaining said media fragments comprises selecting a fragment from a store, said fragment being stored with an associated dramatic parameter which matches the respective entry in the table of dramatic parameters.
6. A method according to any preceding claim, wherein said
30 obtaining said media fragments comprises generating a fragment.

7. A method according to claim 5 or 6, and further comprising receiving user input, said user input affecting said obtaining.

8. A method according to any preceding claim, wherein said media
5 fragments include video data.

9. A method according to any preceding claim, wherein said outputting comprises storing said media fragments and said audio signal.

10. A method according to any preceding claim, wherein said
10 outputting comprises rendering said media fragments and said audio signal.

11. A method according to any preceding claim, and further comprising, prior to obtaining said media fragments, selecting a story template
15 at least in part in dependence on said table of dramatic parameters, said story template affecting said obtaining of media fragments.

12. A method according to claim 11, wherein said story template comprises dramatic parameter data related to a narrative story structure.

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13. A method according to claim 12, wherein the selection of media fragments comprises matching the dramatic parameters of the selected story template with those of the media fragments.

25 14. A method according to claim 11, 12 or 13, wherein the story template for selection is generated according to logical story structure rules and the dramatic parameter list.

30 15. A method according to any preceding claim, wherein the dramatic parameters are represented by physical mark up language tags.

16. A method according to any preceding claim, wherein combinations of extracted features have associated dramatic parameters.

17. A system for augmenting an audio signal, comprising an input
5 device for receiving an audio signal and processing means for extracting features from said received audio signal, for generating a time ordered table of dramatic parameters associated with said extracted features, for obtaining media fragments at least in part in dependence on said generated table of dramatic parameters, and at least one output device for outputting said media
10 fragments.

18. A system according to claim 17, further comprising storage for storing said media fragments.

15 19. A system according to claim 17 or claim 18, wherein said at least one output device comprises display means on which said media fragments are displayed.

20 20. A system according to any one of claims 17, 18 or 19, wherein said at least one output device is responsive to instructions associated with said dramatic parameters.

21. Program code on a carrier which when executed by a processor cause said processor to perform any of the methods of claims 1 to 16.

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22. A database for use with the system of claim 17, said database storing media fragments with associated dramatic parameters.